(d) if so, what are their main demands; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. The directioons of the Supreme Court were in relation to the scheme drawn up in 1982 under which an option was given to certain categories of Staff Artists to be treated as Government servants and the other categories of Staff Artists as 'Art'sts'.

(b) Based on a fresh scheme finalised in 1991, orders treating all Staff Artists/Artists who were in service on 6th March, 1982 or appointed as such hereafter, who did not opt out of the scheme, as Government servants were issued on 29.11.1991.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The demands mainly relate to grant of gazetted status and opening of promotional avenues.

(e Action is already at hand to amend to recruitment Rules appropriately. However, no firm timeframe can be given.

Objectionable nature of Foreign media Programme

7867. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADACASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report captioned 'No soft options for Star TV likely' which appeared in the Indian Express of the 12th May, 1995;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the last couple of years the Principal Information Officer of Government of India has warned BBC and Star TV at least three times about the objectionable nature of their programmes;

(c) if so, the details of the objected programmes;

(d) the details of the warning;

(e) whether any objection has been taken during this period to PTV also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Principal Information Officer had contacted BBC to correct the incorrect information given by the agency when they reported in one of their news bulletins in 1993 that Idian troops had stormed into the Hazratbal mosque and also when India Business Report telecast Har-Shad Mehta's statement without the official denial.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Publicity to Government achievements

7868. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have failed in properly publicising its spectacular achievements during the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons for this failure in publicity;

(c) the steps being taken to properly publicise the achievements of this Government; and